

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration and allowance of the present application are respectfully requested in view of the following remarks.

A. SUMMARY OF THIS AMENDMENT

By the current amendment, Applicants:

1. Editorially amend the specification.
2. Editorially amend claims 1-8 and 10.
3. Add new claim 13.
4. Respectfully traverse all prior art rejections.

This is in response to the Office Action dated October 18, 2007. Claims 1-12 are pending. Claims 1-2 stand rejected. Claims 1-8 and 10 have been editorially amended. New claim 13 has been added.

Applicant thanks the Examiner for consideration of the Information Disclosure Statements filed July, 17, 2003 and December 22, 2003.

The Examiner's acknowledgment of the application's claim to foreign priority is appreciated.

B. THE CLAIMS ARE DEFINITE

The rejection of claims 1-2 as allegedly being indefinite under U.S.C. 35 112, second paragraph, is respectfully traversed. Applicant has amended claims 1 and 2 to overcome the rejection. It is respectfully submitted that the indefiniteness rejection of claims 1-2 be withdrawn.

Regarding claim 1, the language has been amended so that now it recites “An image processing device, wherein...*the image data invalidating unit invalidates said preceding image data by writing the new input image data over a region in which the preceding data is stored.*” This is represented e.g., in Fig. 15 of the Specification, where it is seen that the new data (“Job2”) is written over the same area where the preceding data (“Job1”) is stored, this process occurring after invalidation of the preceding image data has been taking place.

Regarding claim 2, the language has been amended so that now it recites “An image processing device, ...wherein when there is input of a new image data through said image data input unit *after* a preceding image data has been processed but *before* said image data invalidation unit has *started* the invalidation of said preceding image data stored in said image data storage unit, said image data invalidation unit stores said new image data being input to said device.” This is represented e.g., in Fig. 14 (“Present Invention (b)”) of the Specification, wherein it is seen that when the new image data (“Job2”) is input after the preceding image data (“Job1”) has been processed but before the invalidation of Job1 has started, then the new image data, Job2 is stored in the device.

It is respectfully submitted that claims 3-12 are currently definite in view of the amendments made in claims 1 and 2.

New claim 13, which depends from claim 5, has been added. Support for the claim limitations can be found e.g., in Fig. 14 (“Present Invention (a)”) of the Specification.

C. MISCELLANEOUS

In view of the foregoing and other considerations, all claims are deemed in condition for allowance. A formal indication of allowability is earnestly solicited.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge the undersigned's deposit account #14-1140 in whatever amount is necessary for entry of these papers and the continued pendency of the captioned application.

Should the Examiner feel that an interview with the undersigned would facilitate allowance of this application, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

By: /Leonidas Boutsikaris/
Leonidas Boutsikaris, Ph.D.
Reg. No. 61,377

LB:tlm
901 North Glebe Road, 11th Floor
Arlington, VA 22203-1808
Telephone: (703) 816-4000
Facsimile: (703) 816-4100